CHURCH HISTORY

Chapter 23 - The Church Is Reformed in Germany

1. *The Reformation*
    a. *all a reformation of the Church; consisted of changes for the better made in the Church; the changes for the better had to do with every one of these various aspects of the Church*
    b. *The Reformation brought about certain changes also outside the Church*
2. *Luther Restores Christian Liberty*
    a. *Luther's character was made up of strangely contradictory traits. He was at the same time very radical and very conservative. Luther was the man who was to bring about a tremendous change in the Church; but he was very slow in discarding the old and substituting the new*
    b. *Step by step many important changes were introduced; "All believers are priests; there are only two and not seven sacraments. The sacraments are not indispensable to salvation."*
    c. *his conservative nature led him to adopt the principle that everything in the old Church that was not directly forbidden in the Bible should be retained*
    d. *Luther denied the sacrificial character of the Lord's Supper, he nevertheless taught that Christ's body is present in the Lord's Supper*
3. *A Form of Church Government Is Developed*
    a. *Lutheran Church does not have bishops, autonomous and works with the secular governments of the state*
4. *Materials for Study and Worship*
    a. *Luther translated the Bible into the German language, the language of his people from May 4, 1521, to March 3, 1522*
    b. *In order that the children might become thoroughly grounded in evangelical doctrine, Luther wrote his Shorter Catechism*
    c. *when he was already forty years old, he blossomed forth as a poet and wrote many of the hymns for the new hymnbook; "Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott," known to us as "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."*
    d. *the Lutheran Church present to the world an official statement in which it declared its faith; . This statement of the Lutheran faith has become known as the* Augsburg Confession
5. *Luther Has Many Helpers*
    a. *His closest friend and most helpful co-worker was Philipp Melanchthon; published the first systematic presentation of Luther's ideas under the title of* Loci Communes*; called* The Quiet Reformer *as a moderating influence on late Lutheranism*
    b. *Spalatin, the private secretary of the Elector of Saxony*
    c. *On June 13, 1525, Luther received a very special helper, for on that day he married Catherine von Bora*
    d. *When Luther married, many priests, monks, and nuns followed his example; thus another step was taken in the Reformation movement away from Rome*